Safe drinking water in Assam

4707. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of safe drinking water facilities provided in rural areas of Assam during the Ninth Five Year Plan and the amount allocated for the purpose; and

(b) the details of rural areas which are likely to be provided with safe drinking water facilities in Assam during the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) and (b) The allocation for Central assistance under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) for the State of Assam and the provision under the State sector Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) for 1997-98 was Rs. 2438.00 Lakh and Rs. 6417.00 Lakh respectively. A provisional allocation of Rs. 2438.00 Lakh for 1998-99 under ARWSP has been made for the State of Assam. The MNP provision for 1998-99 is reported to be Rs. 6905.00 Lakh. The State Government reported that 1752 rural habitations have been covered with drinking water facilities during 1997-98.

Water supply is a State subject. Powers have been delegated to State Governments to plan and implement individual rural water supply programmes. As per the Action Plan prepared by the Government of Assam all the Not Covered and Partially Covered rural habitations of the State are to be provided with drinking water facilities during the Ninth Plan period, subject to availability of funds.

Drought Prone Area Programme in Rajasthan

4708. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of districts covered so far under the Drought Prone Area Programme in Rajasthan;

(b) the funds allocated by Government under this programme during the Eighth Five Year Plan, State-wise and spent year-wise in respect of Rajasthan; and

(c) the funds earmarked under the DPAP during the Ninth Five Year Plan, (State-wise) indicating the schemes proposed to be introduced in Rajasthan as per proposals received from State Government during the last two years till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) The names of the districts covered under Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) in Rajasthan are Ajmer, Bharatpur, Panaswara, Dungarpur, Jhalawar, Kota, Baran, Sawaimadhopur, Tonk and Udaipur.

(b) The statement indicating state-wise and year-wise Central assistance and funds utilised during the Eighth Five Year Plan under DPAP is annexed. [*See* Appendix 184, Annexure no. 119]

(c) The Ninth Five Year Plan has not yet been finalised by the Planning Commission.

Development of Wasteland and Wetland

4709. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to State:

(a) whether Government have sponsored any scheme for the development of wastelands and wetlands in the country;

(b) if so what are those schemes;

(c) the States where those schemes have been launched; and

(d) the financial allocation made and physical coverage under these schemes in those States during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) and (b) Department of